

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **S. 1068**

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TO:	The Honorable Glenn McConnell, Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee		
FROM:	Office of State Budget, Budget and Control Board		
ANALYSTS:	Rodney P. Grizzle		
DATE:	March 13, 2008	SBD:	2008137

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AUTHOR:	Senator Hutto	PRIMARY CODE CITE:	62.1-302
SUBJECT:	Probate Court		

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ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:

A Cost to the General Fund (See Below)

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:

\$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

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**BILL SUMMARY:**

Senate Bill 1068 amends Sections 62-1-302, 62-1-308 and 62-5-433 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, by removing the Probate Court cases that are appealed from the Circuit Court to the Court of Appeals. The Bill also increases the jurisdictional amount of the Probate Court cases from \$25,000 to \$100,000.

**EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:**

The Judicial Department indicates that Bill will have an impact on the General Fund of the State of approximately \$83,921 for personal service and employer contributions for 2.00 FTE's. (1.00 Staff Attorney and 1.00 Docketing Clerk) This estimated cost should cover a projected 7% to 8% increase in workload for the Court of Appeals due to the new appeals process outlined in this proposed legislation. The Department estimates 70 of these appeal cases annually.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:**

There should be no costs on county probate courts as a result of this Bill.

**SPECIAL NOTES:**

None.

Approved by:



Harry Bell  
Assistant Director, Office of State Budget